





GRAFTON SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes January 23, 2020

A regular meeting is called to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members are present:

Edward Prisby (chair), Mark Haddad (vice-chair), Amy Marr (clerk), Angie Correia, Laura DiDio, Lindsey Fox, Pamela Hill, Barry Smith.

(Note: Colleen Roy is present as a guest, and is appointed as a non-voting member by the conclusion of the meeting.)

Benchmarking Report Status

Mr. Prisby would like the Commission to start publishing its findings on the town website as soon as possible. He is preparing a draft that he hopes will be ready for the Commission to review in two weeks and approve at our next meeting.

Discussion of Phase II Reporting, Interview Questions

A meeting has been scheduled with Mr. McInerney for the 29th at 9:00 a.m. The Commission discusses questions to ask him above and beyond the things the members already know about topics such as health insurance, the impact of funding levels on services, municipal costs, etc. Revenue is to be explored later. More questions to be asked of municipal department heads are posed by the Commission. Ms. Marr reports on a list of questions compiled thus far for both other school districts the school department heads, which will consist of building principals, and directors of HR, special education, and finance. The Commission members give additional input to those lists. Ms. Marr will ask Mr. Daniel Gale, director of finance, to send the questions out for districts by the end of the month, and she will also begin setting up interviews for next month. The team examines a packet about the municipal FY21 budget, which was given to the Select Board on January 20th.

Public Outreach

Mr. Prisby would like the public to be able to learn more about the work of the Commission. Mr. Haddad proposes a public hearing once the benchmarking report is available. The proposed hearing would be televised on GCTV for those who cannot attend the meeting in person. Ms. Hill proposes a smaller version of the report to be shared, perhaps in a slide format, for people to digest more easily.

Mr. Prisby proposes perhaps using Facebook Live after the hearing, to answer questions. Ms. Hill proposes allowing people to submit their questions remotely during the live broadcast. Ms. DiDio proposes creating a 10-12 question survey, and Mr. Prisby asked how we could make it something other than self-selecting - perhaps CODE RED. The goal would be 1500-2000 non-partisan responses. Ms. DiDio is going to work on a draft survey and send it out to the commission to review prior to the next meeting.

Action Items

Mr. Prisby introduces Colleen Roy to the Commission. Ms. Roy is a member of Finance Committee and the chair of the CIPC. Mr. Prisby entertains a motion to approve her as a non-voting member of the GSC. Mr. Haddad moves, Mr. Smith seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

At the request of Ms. Marr, a motion is made by Mr. Haddad to approve the meeting minutes of October 10, November 7 & December 19, 2019 collectively. The motion is seconded by Ms. Fox. Motion carries unanimously.

Members of the GSC will interview Mr. McInerney on January 29th at 9:00 a.m.

The GSC will reconvene February 13th at 7:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.

Adjournment: At 8:50 p.m., a motion is made by Mr. Haddad to adjourn. Motion is seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy L. Marr, Clerk
Grafton Sustainability Commission